

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 and 25-27 have been examined. Claims 28-32 have been added. Claims 1-23, and 25-32 are all the claims pending in the application.

Substantive rejections

Claims 1-4, 11, 13, 15, 17-22, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle in view of Gozani. Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Gozani in view of Armistead. Claims 11, 13, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle and Gozani in view of Armistead. Claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle and Gozani in view of Givens. Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle and Gozani in view of Katagiri. Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle and Gozani in view of Armistead in view of Waltermann. Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle and Gozani and Armistead in view of Waltermann. Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle and Gozani and Armistead in view of Eberhard. Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bartle and Gozani in view of Homme.

Claim 1 recites the feature that the source of X-rays or gamma-rays is physically separated from the first neutron source. Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is not taught by Bartle, Gozani, or any of the art of record, either alone or in combination. Claim 1 is therefore patentable for this reason.

New claims

Applicant herein adds new claims 28-30, and respectfully submits that claims 28-30 are patentable based on their respective dependencies.

Applicant has also added new independent claim 31 and claim 32, which is dependent therefrom. Claims 31 and 32 each recite, inter alia, the features of a first source which produces substantially mono-energetic fast neutrons by a deuterium-tritium or deuterium-deuterium fusion reaction, the first source having a deuteron energy of less than about 200 keV; a second source which produces X-rays or gamma-rays of a sufficient energy to substantially penetrate an object to be imaged, the second source being physically separated from the first source; and a first detector array and a second detector array. Applicant respectfully submits that these features are not taught or otherwise disclosed by Bartle, Gozani, or any of the other art of record, either alone or in combination.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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